

Message Text

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12
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 CU-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4423

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 5839

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, ELAB, OEXC (ECEVIT, BULENT)
SUBJECT: ECEVIT VISIT TO U.S.: UNION INVITES SY AGENT
TO TURKEY

REF: ANKARA 5801

1. THE PRESIDENT OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES EMPLOYEES UNION OF TURKEY (GENEL-IS), ABDULLAH BASTURK, HAS ASKED THE EMBASSY TO CONVEY AN INVITATION TO SY AGENT BERNARD JOHNSON TO BE THE UNION'S GUEST FOR A 15-DAY VACATION IN TURKEY. THIS INVITATION IS MEANT AS AN EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE FOR MR. JOHNSON'S ACTION IN PREVENTING THE ATTEMPT AGAINST BULENT ECEVIT FROM SUCCEEDING. BASTURK WROTE THAT A PROGRAM FOR THE VISIT, AS WELL AS AN AIRLINE TICKET, WOULD BE FORWARDED WHEN THE UNION WAS INFORMED OF THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE INVITATION AND OF A DATE FOR THE VISIT.

2. COMMENT: GENEL-IS IS AFFILIATED WITH THE LEFTIST, LABOR CONFEDERATION DISK. DISK IS PRESENTLY SEEKING TO EXPAND ITS MEMBERSHIP AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MUCH-LARGER TURK-IS LABOR CONFEDERATION. TURK-IS IS CENTRIST AND HAS TIES WITH THE AFL-CIO. WERE MR. JOHNSON TO ACCEPT THE GENEL-IS INVITATION, HE COULD WELL FIND HIMSELF IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FAIRLY BITTER CONFRONTATION BETWEEN DISK AND TURK-IS.

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NNN

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